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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	<b>Application Number</b>	09/858,477 ✓	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	May 17, 2001	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Akira Sekine	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1743	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Yelena G. Gakh	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>	3	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	H6810.0021/P021

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ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
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<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
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<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>		
<b>Firm or Individual Name</b>	DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP Mark J. Thronson, Reg. No. 33,082	
<b>Signature</b>		
<b>Date</b>	October 22, 2003	



Docket No.: H6810.0021/P021  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Akira Sekine, et al.

Art Unit: 1743

Application No.: 09/858,477

Examiner: Yelena G. Gakh

Filed: May 17, 2001

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT OF  
CHEMICAL MATERIALS

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 25, 2003, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-18, for continued examination.

This election is made with traverse. The Examiner has required restriction between Group I, claims 1-18, drawn to a method for management of chemical materials and Group II, claims 119-40, drawn to a system for management of chemical materials.

M.P.E.P. § 803 provides as follows: "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." Applicants respectfully submit that the other claims in this case can be examined together with the Group II claims without "serious burden."

Please also note that claims 39 and 40 are method claims. Claims 39 and 40 are not drawn to a system for management of chemical materials as the Office Action asserts.

Favorable action on the application is solicited.

October 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Mark J. Thronson

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